

HA-1344

Between 1885 & 1900

134 Cornelia Ruff House
~~234~~ Baltimore Pike
Bel Air
Private

The distinctive feature about this house is the sawn Queen Anne balustrade to the front porch, its only decorative feature until the aluminum awnings were added.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1344
1313445604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

134
234 Baltimore Pike

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

__SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

__UNOCCUPIED

__WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

__NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

__COMMERCIAL

__EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

__MUSEUM

__PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: rental

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cornelia Ruff

Telephone #: no phone

STREET & NUMBER

234 Baltimore Pike

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small two and a half story house now sided in aluminum is at 234 Baltimore Pike in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. While its gable roof is similar to its neighbors, its aluminum awnings and its porch treatment make it more stylish. The hip-roofed porch is carried on square panelled posts. The balustrade of jig-sawed boards is Queen Anne style. The access to the porch is at the east side, up three steps with brick sides and wrought iron balustrades. The brick may date to the aluminum siding and awnings; its mortar looks new. The foundation of the porch is cement block, laid with gaps between the blocks.

The three bay front (south) elevation has 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in plain board surrounds. The entrance is in the center. The east and west sides show one bay and a one bay two story shed addition to the back(north) followed by a single bay, single story kitchen shed. The house was originally a single stack and was doubled by the shed addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HA-1344

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Between 1885 & 1900 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This well-kept little house is an example of Bel Air's low to moderate income housing in the last quarter of the 19th century. It is also an example of the flexibility of the vernacular house.. Its floor space has been doubled by the addition of a one bay, two story shed to the rear. It was probably built soon after the land was purchased by Charles Dallam in 1885. The land is part of lots #19, 20, and 21 in the Hays Addition.

The 1920 Tax assessment shows it owned by Ora Howard. The list states that the owner was "colored" and that the property was assessed at \$849, \$300 more than the next house to the west, suggesting that the two story addition had been made by that time.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #1235 in the Town of Bel Air
50' x 150'

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian

28 June 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
21 STATE CIRCLE
SHAW HOUSE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: HA-1344

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
House

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:

PRESENT USE: Private residence, rental

ORIGINAL USE: Private residence

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent () Good (x)

Fair () Poor: ()

THEME: Architecture

STYLE: Vernacular

DATE BUILT:

Between 1885 and 1900

COUNTY: Harford

TOWN: Bel Air

LOCATION:

134

234

Baltimore Pike

COMMON NAME:
House

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Private Residence

OWNER: Cornelia Ruff

ADDRESS: 234 Baltimore Pike
Bel Air

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:

Yes () No () Restricted (x)

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Local (x) State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone () Brick () Concrete () Concrete Block ()

2. Wall Structure

A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam () Balloon ()

B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()

C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other:

3. Wall Covering: Clapboard () Board and Batten () Wood Shingle () Shiplap ()

Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal () Aluminum (x) Asphalt Shingle ()

Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()

Bonding Pattern:

Other:

4. Roof Structure

A. Truss: Wood () Iron () Steel () Concrete ()

B. Other:

5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle (x) Sheet Metal ()

Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:

6. Engineering Structure:

corbelled cap

7. Other:

w/ end

Appendages: Porches (x) Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys (x) Sheds () Ells ()

Wings () Other: aluminum awnings

Roof Style: Gable (x) Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()

Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet () With False Front ()

Other:

Number of Stories: 2½

Number of Bays: 3

Approximate Dimensions: 25' x 35'

Entrance Location: Baltimore Pike

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat () Zoning () Roads ()

Development (x) Deterioration ()

Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive () Negative ()

Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

2/2 windows in contrasting plain surrounds: center entry
hiproofed porch panel posts & milled balusters Queen Anne
one bay side, 2 story shed addition (1 bay), 1 bay shed
(original 2 rooms down and up)
brick 3 step up to porch on E side with wrought iron balustrade
• cement block foundation to porch with gaps between blocks

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

one car garage

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

low to moderate income housing
on #19, 20, & 21 in Hays Addition

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Balto. Pike

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

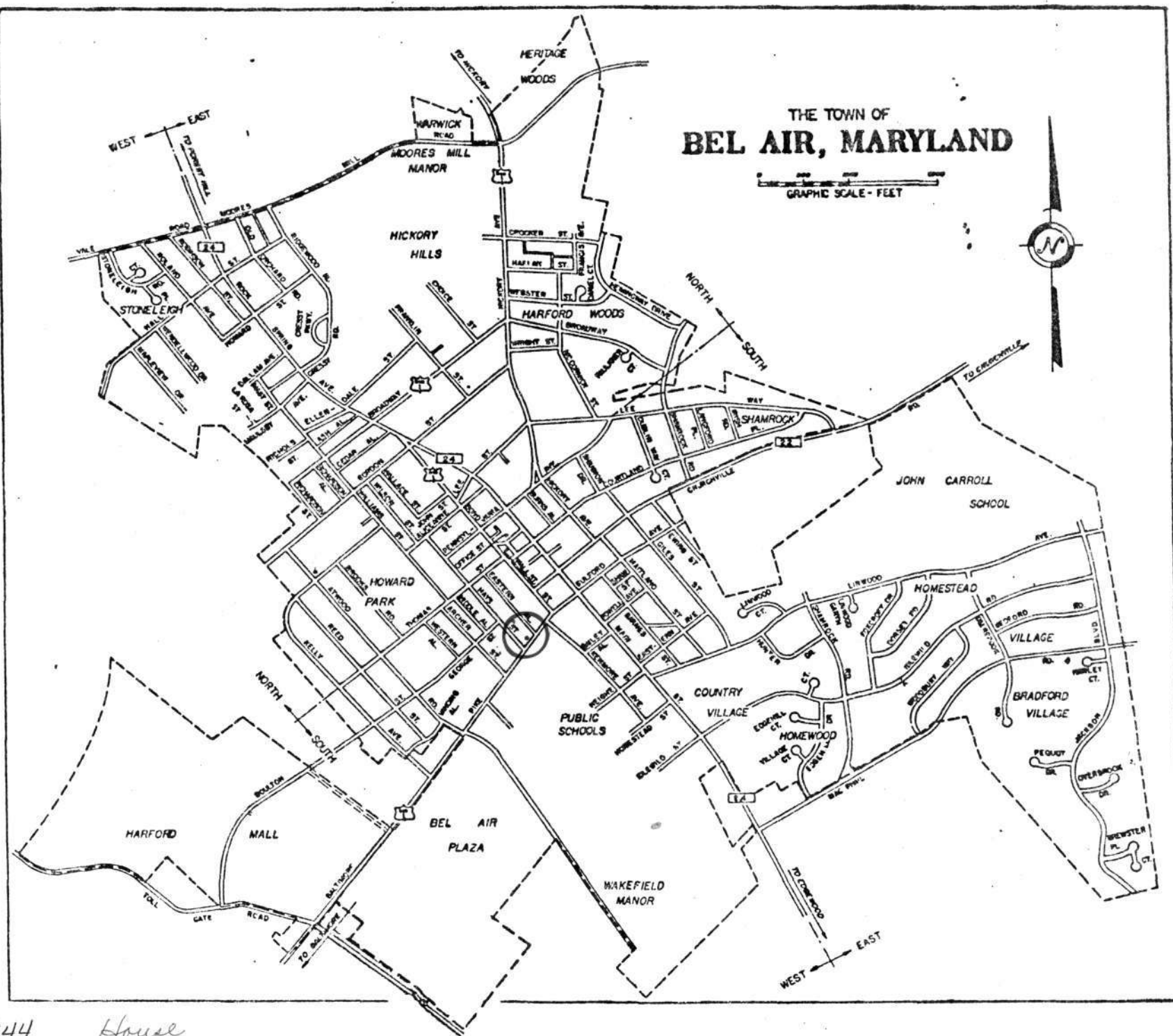
Open Lane() Woodland() Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up() Densely Built Up()
Residential() Commercial()
Agricultural() Industrial()
Roadside Strip Development()
Other:

Marilynn Larew

RECORDED BY:
Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:
27 June 1979

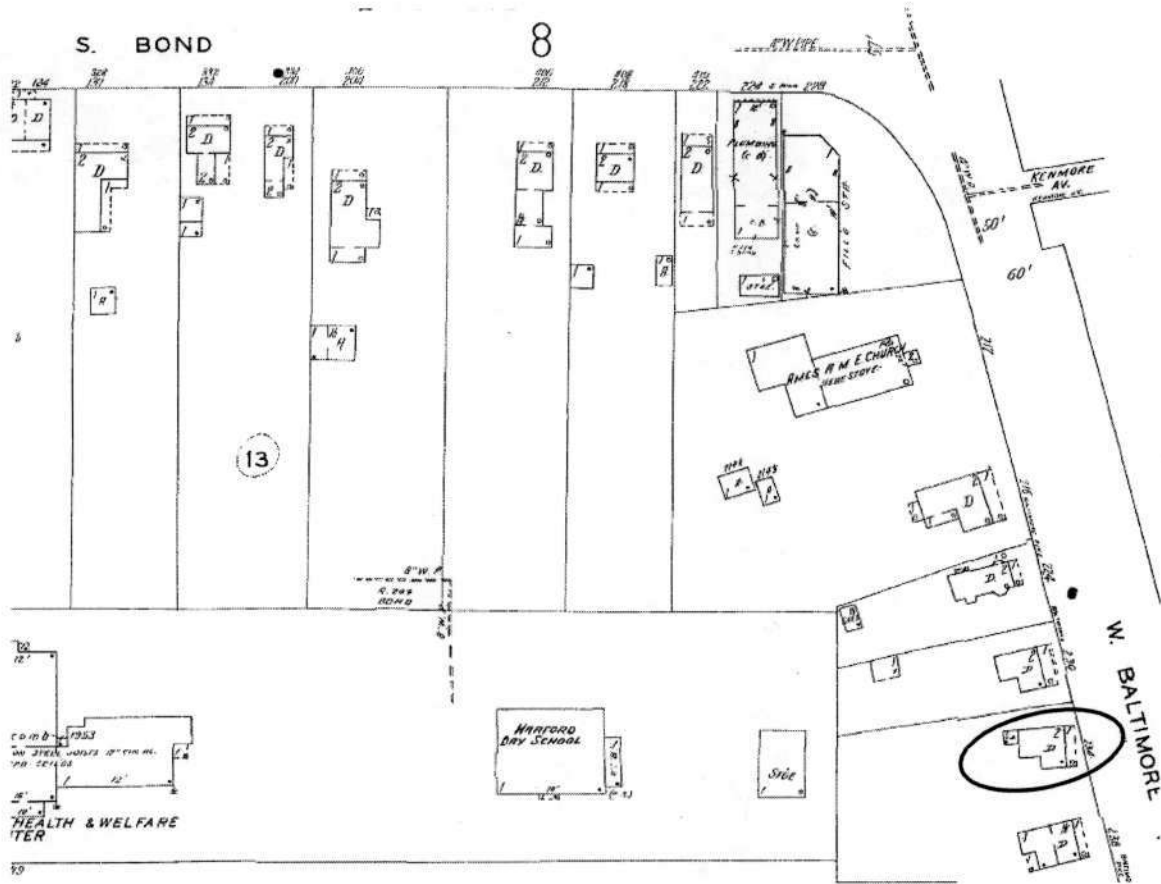
DATE RECORDED:



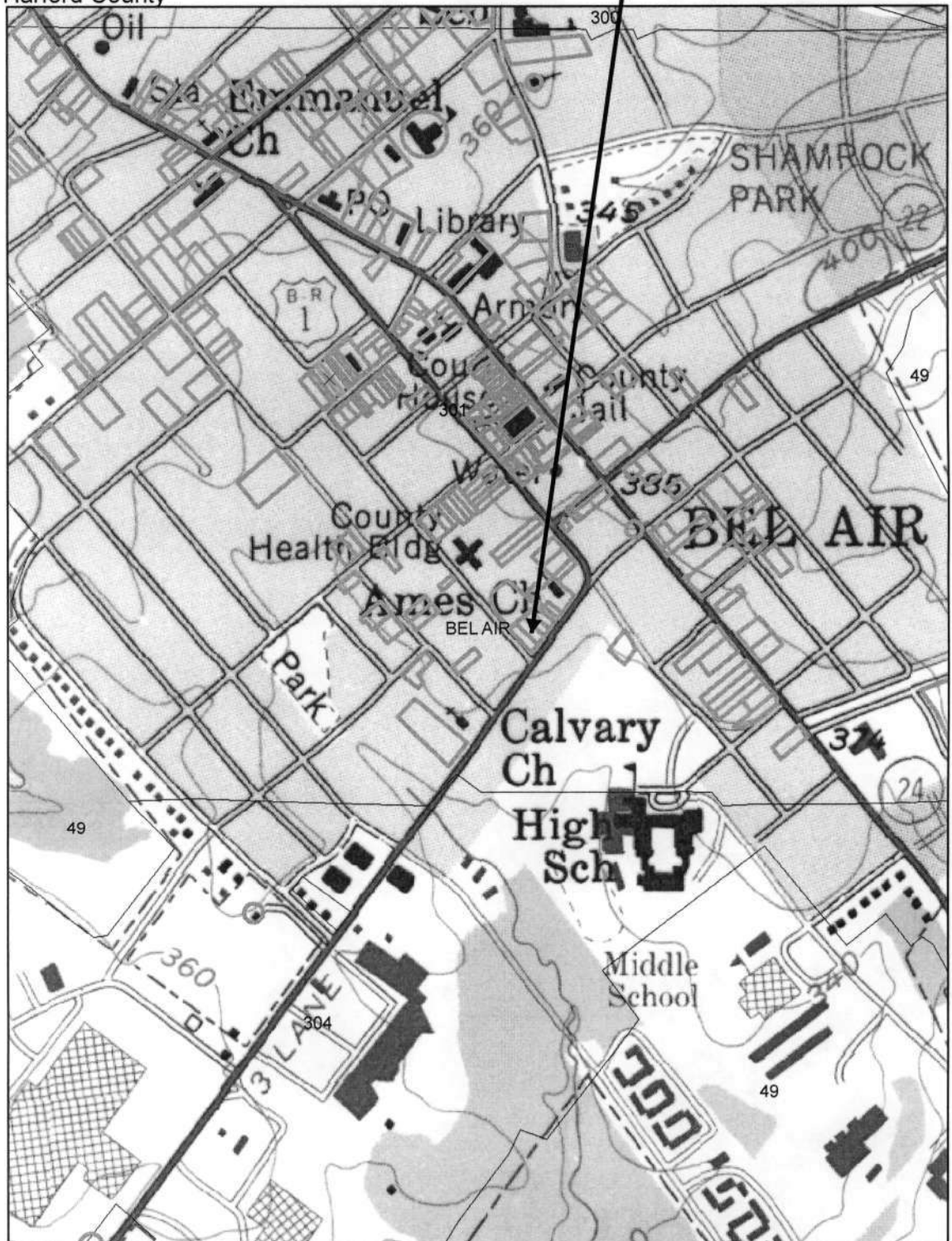
HA-1344

House
234 Baltimore Pike

HA-1344
 Cornelia Ruff House
 134 Baltimore Pike
 Bel Air
 Sanborn Bel Air Aug. 1930-Sept. 1961
 Harford County



HA-1344
Cornelia Ruff House
Baltimore Pike
Bel Air
Bel Air Quad
Harford County





HA-1344

House, #34 Balto Pike, Bel Air
S + e elev

M. Larew, 1979